

WEST DEVON LICENSING SUB- COMMITTEE



West Devon
Borough
Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **West Devon Licensing Sub-Committee** held on **Tuesday, 30th January, 2018** at **1.30 pm** at the **Chamber - Kilworthy Park**

Present: **Councillors:**

Chairman Cllr Sanders
Vice Chairman

Cllr Baldwin

Cllr Roberts

In attendance:

Councillors:

Cllr Mott

Cllr Pearce

Officers:

Solicitor

Specialist – Licensing

Also in attendance and participating:

Mr Michael Parle on behalf of the applicant with Mrs K Luffingham and Mr S Earp

Mr and Mrs Shipley with Cllr Diana Moyse – Objecting
Ms Amanda Steers - Objecting

9. **Appointment of Chairman**

*LSC9

RESOLVED

That Cllr Sanders be appointed Chairman for the duration of the meeting.

10. **Declaration of Interest**

*LSC10

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered but none were made. In response to a challenge

from a resident, Cllr Sanders confirmed that whilst he was a Member of Dartmoor National Park Authority, in his view this did not result in a conflict of interest and he was able to take part in this sub-committee. He also confirmed that he knew the residents in attendance, knew Mr Earp once he saw him, had previously visited the Royal Oak Public House, but did not know anyone well enough to warrant a declaration of interest.

11. **Application for a new premises licence at Meavy Parish Hall, The Green, Meavy, Yelverton, PL20 6PJ**

*LSC11

The Sub Committee considered a report that sought to determine an application for a new premises licence at Meavy Parish Hall, The Green, Meavy, Yelverton. The Chairman read out the order of the process.

The Licensing Officer proceeded to present the application and the contents of her report. She confirmed that the applicant had met with the Police and agreed to additional conditions set out in presented appendix B. As a result, the Police had confirmed that they had no other objections. There were no objections from statutory consultees, however, four representations had been received objecting to the application. Further to additional information supplied by the applicant, one of those objections had been withdrawn. The Licensing Officer set out the key elements within the report, and reminded the sub-committee that the application must be judged against the four licensing objectives.

1. Address by Mr Michael Parle on behalf of the applicant

During his presentation, Mr Parle made the following points:

- He outlined the reason for the application being the need to protect the future of the Parish Hall
- The committee were looking to arrange fund raising events
- Traditional events such as whist drives were no longer popular
- The cost of applying for Temporary Event Notices, both financial cost and time for volunteers to complete the application process
- The wish to make the events more attractive
- Concerns about additional traffic generation not being valid as the events that were no longer popular such as whist drives and quizzes attracted people from outside the village.

2. Address by Miss Amanda Steers objecting to the application

During her presentation, Miss Steers made the following points:

- She reminded the sub-committee of the issues associated with an event that had taken place in 2016 that resulted in complaints, the Police did nothing and Environmental Health could not be contacted as apparently the computers were down
- Events have been held without the appropriate permission
- On a normal night there can be a parish council meeting in the hall and bell ringers practising in the church so it all gets a bit much
- There will be more traffic

- The buildings, roads and village green cannot be moved, there is not enough room
- It is one thing to have great ideas but limitations must be set
- If the DPS does not need to be on site who will supervise
- I live in the village and have been subjected to noise, nuisance and foul language when events have been taking place

3. Address by Mr Stribley – objecting to the application

During his presentation, Mr Stribley made the following points:

- the reason for his objection being that he lived in the centre of a quiet residential village which was being subjected to increased levels of traffic and noise
- he had experienced excessive noise and disturbing behaviour arising from people attending events
- other residents were also upset by the application and had said that Mr and Mrs Stribley were brave to 'stick their necks out' and object
- due to the popularity of the Royal Oak, people unaccustomed to sharing space with pedestrians were coming into the village along the narrow village lanes
- the landlord of the Royal Oak has made no secret that the pub is not big enough for his enterprising ideas and, if approved, the parish hall will become an extension to the pub
- The landlord of the pub already delegates supervision of the pub to others, who will he delegate supervision of the parish hall to

4. Address by Mrs Stribley objecting to the application

During her presentation, Mrs Stribley made the following points:

- Living in the village has been an enjoyable experience except for the last few years which has seen an increase in traffic and popularity of the Royal Oak which has had a detrimental effect
- I used to be in the parish hall committee and enjoyed it until Mr Earp became chairman and made changes
- When alcohol is served at events in the hall we are unable to open our windows at night because of the noise, bad language and urinating
- The village is not designed for these events. People love Meavy, I love Meavy, but people need to come to the village for other reasons
- The parish hall is now an extension of the Royal Oak. We used to have events such as lunches for the elderly and the hall was successful, so why not now
- Meavy is a small Dartmoor village and a pleasant place to come to, but not when people throw cans, create nuisance

5. Address by Cllr Moyse objecting to the application

During her presentation, Cllr Moyse made the following points:

- I don't live in the village and can view from afar, but I know the village as I was the Parish Clerk for three years
- I do usually support parish halls but I have concerns in this case as there are flooding issues in the area and the proposal will cause an increase in traffic

- There are no pavements and there are walkers and horse riders in the village, and there have been several complaints about speeding vehicles
- Parking is difficult
- Meavy is a small hamlet that does not need anymore traffic
- I hope the sub committee will not pass the application.

The Members of the sub-committee were given the opportunity to ask questions of clarity of each of the speakers. The Chairman then allowed questions from each of the speakers.

(At 2.50pm, the Sub-Committee adjourned in the presence of the solicitor to consider the application. The Sub Committee reconvened at 3.30pm)

5 The Decision

The Chairman read out the following statement:

We have considered the application for a new premises licence.

We have considered the Statement of Licensing Policy, the government guidance and our obligations that relate to the promotion of the licensing objectives.

We have read carefully the written representations from all parties and additional information given to us today. We have also considered the additional conditions proposed by the Police and accept by the Applicant.

It is our decision to grant this applications subject to the following changes being incorporated into the operating schedule and to include the additional conditions requested by the Policy. We have determined the changes to be APPROPRIATE to achieve the licensing objectives:

1. The sale of alcohol to be limited to a maximum of 30 events per year to prevent public nuisance
2. To maintain at all times a written record of each event where alcohol is for sale for inspection by the Licensing Authority to maintain compliance with the licensing objectives.

In addition to be APPROPRIATE the Committee also believe the amendment(s) to be necessary.

Thank you all"

The Meeting concluded at 3.35 pm

Signed by:

Chairman
